

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following listing of claims for the previous listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the pulmonary administration of a dry powder composition from a passive dry powder inhaler to the respiratory tract of a patient, the method comprising:

providing a dry powder composition comprising particles comprising a hollow and porous lipid matrix and an active agent, the particles having a particle size of 0.5 to 20 microns, mass median aerodynamic diameter of from about 0.5 to about 5.0 ~~less than about 5 microns~~, and the powder comprising a bulk density of less than 0.5 g/cm³;

loading the dry powder composition into a passive dry powder inhaler ~~having an inhalation flow rate range of about 10 to about 60 L/min~~; and

administering the dry powder composition from the inhaler to the respiratory tract of a patient,

wherein the emitted dose is at least 60% and a lung deposition is at least 25% over a range of inhalation flow rates from 10-60 L/min. ~~substantially the flow rate range of the inhaler.~~

2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the lipid comprises a phospholipid selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, distearoylphosphatidylcholine, diarachidoylphosphatidylcholine, dibehenoylphosphatidylcholine, diphosphatidyl glycerol, phosphatidylcholines, saturated phosphatidylethanolamines, saturated phosphatidylserines, saturated phosphatidylglycerols, and saturated phosphatidylinositols.

6-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the lung deposition is greater than 50%.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of budesonide, tobramycin sulfate, leuprolide acetate, amphotericin B, ciprofloxacin and parathyroid hormone.

15-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) A method for the pulmonary administration of a dry powder composition from a passive dry powder inhaler to the respiratory tract of a patient, the method comprising:

providing a dry powder composition comprising hollow and porous particles comprising:

(i) a phospholipid matrix comprising a phospholipid selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, distearoylphosphatidylcholine, diarachidoylphosphatidylcholine, dibehenoylphosphatidylcholine, diphosphatidyl glycerol, phosphatidylcholines, saturated phosphatidylethanolamines, saturated phosphatidylserines, saturated phosphatidylglycerols, and saturated phosphatidylinositols;

(ii) an active agent comprising tobramycin;

(iii) a particle size of 0.5 to 20 microns; and

(iv) a mass median aerodynamic diameter of less than 5 microns;

loading the dry powder composition into a passive dry powder inhaler having a range of inhalation flow rates; and

administering the dry powder composition from the inhaler to the respiratory tract of a patient,

wherein a FPF_{4+F} fine particle fraction emitted from the inhaler is at least 60% as determined by an Anderson Cascade Impaction or multi-stage liquid impinger,

an emitted dose is at least ~~about~~ 60%, and is substantially independent of an inhalation flow rate, and wherein a lung deposition is greater than 25%, an interpatient variation in lung deposition is less than 40% ~~about 17%~~, and an inpatient variation in lung deposition does not exceed ~~is less than about~~ 6%.

30-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of~~ claim 1 wherein a FPF_{4+F} fine particle fraction emitted from the inhaler is at least 60% as determined by Anderson Cascade Impaction or multi-stage liquid impinger.

36. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of~~ claim 1 wherein the particles further comprise a metal cation.

37. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 36 ~~The method of claim 4~~ wherein the metal cation comprises calcium.

38. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of~~ claim 1 wherein ~~the a difference between~~ lung deposition at about 30 L/min ~~LPM~~ and lung deposition at ~~about~~ 90 L/min ~~LPM~~ is within 8%, ~~about 11% or less,~~ as measured by FPF_{4+F} .

39. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of~~ claim 1 wherein the active agent comprises tobramycin, and an intrasubject dose variability does not exceed ~~is about 6% or less~~.

40. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of~~ claim 1, wherein ~~where~~ a variation in FPF_{4+F} with an inhalation flow rate of 30 L/min and an inhalation flow rate of 90 L/min is less than ~~about~~ 20%.

41. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~The method of claim 1~~
wherein an interpatient variation in lung deposition is less than 40% ~~about 17%~~.

42-46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently amended) A method for inhalation of a dry powder drug with
reduced variability in the lung dose comprising:

providing a dry powder drug composition comprising particles comprising
a lipid matrix and a particle size of 1-30 microns, mass median aerodynamic diameter of
less than 5 microns, and a bulk density of less than 0.5 g/cm³;

loading the composition into a passive dry powder inhaler; and

inhaling the drug composition from the inhaler resulting in lung deposition
wherein a variability between patients ~~at a single flow rate~~ is less than 40% ~~about 17%~~,
and a variability with ^{a ?} flow rate of 30 L/min as compared with a flow rate of 90 L/min is
less than ~~about~~ 20%.